

## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Personal Standing of PZPR Politburo Members 2. Wladyslaw Gomulka 3. General Lack of Confidence in PZPR	DATE DISTR.	12 December 1955
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1. The personal influence and importance of individual members of the PZPR (United Polish Workers Party) Politburo is now reported to be as follows, in order of precedence: Jakub Berman, Boleslaw Bierut, Edward Gemb, and Franciszek Mazur. Mazur serves as the official Politburo channel of communication with the Russians.<sup>1</sup> Hilary Minc's influence in the Politburo is very much on the decline and he is no longer given any serious attention. The same is true of Marshal Konstanty Rokossowski.
2. Apparently, the Party leaders have made no final decision as yet concerning the future of Wladyslaw Gomulka. However, Gomulka is still in Warsaw and, contrary to a recent RFE broadcast, he did not accompany Bierut on the latter's trip to the Soviet Union.
3. In Poland today, there is considerable lack of confidence in the PZPR. The PZPR, previously active in all aspects of national life, now seems to be paralyzed. The Central Committee, which in the past has always taken the initiative for all political activity and has exercised rigid control over its regional sections, now leaves the initiative to those branches which are directly concerned in the activity and no longer interfere in local matters.
4. A lack of consistency and direction in the activities of the Politburo has also become apparent, and the Polish Politburo has been in a state of confusion since the change of leadership in the Soviet Union last February. Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin added to this confusion when he explicitly told the Polish Politburo to run the country by itself and not to rely on help or advice from the Soviet Union.
5. Under present circumstances most people are not afraid to express the opinion that the elaborate show trials of recent years, such as the trial of László Rajk in Hungary and that of Traicho Kostov in Bulgaria, were staged affairs.
1. Comments: [redacted] also reported that Mazur serves as the communications channel between the PZPR Politburo and the Soviets. This same report further information regarding Mazur's position in the Politburo and stated that, although Bierut appears to have the highest official authority, in actual fact, ultimate political control is in the hands of Mazur.

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